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1 July 1965

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Situation in the Dominican Republic  
(Report #293 - As of 7:00 am EDT)

There are further signs of weakening in both the rebel and the loyalist camps as the special OAS committee seems to be making some progress in its attempts to bring about a solution to the crisis.

The OAS committee has secured the tentative agreement of a number of capable Dominican professional men willing to serve in an apolitical interim regime that would govern until after national elections some months hence. Dr. Hector Garcia Godoy, well known former diplomat, is now being most prominently spoken of as the possible head of such a government.

Within the rebel camp there are more signs of deterioration. Latin American embassies in Santo Domingo, which have granted asylum to numerous non-Communist defectors from the rebel camp, are now beginning to be approached by members of the 14th of June Political Group (APCJ) who want asylum. The Colombian ambassador informed the US Embassy yesterday that he has received several such approaches and now has at least one APCJ member in his embassy. He believes a similar situation is developing at other Latin American embassies.

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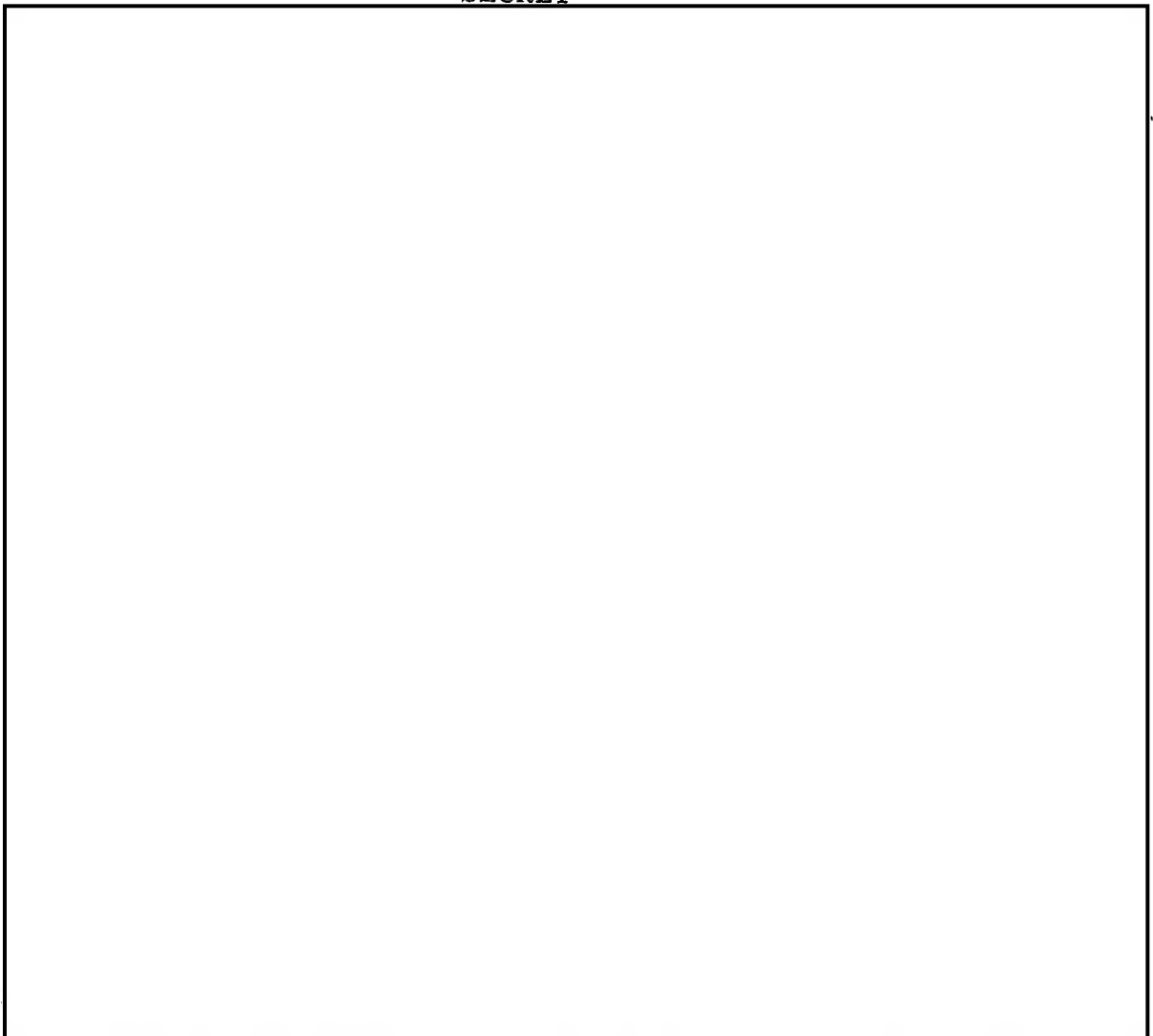
State Dept. review completed

DIA Review Completed.

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While the Imbert government continues adamant in its resistance to the OAS suggestion that it step down in favor of a new provisional regime, there is evidence that loyalist military officers are not prepared to continue their unqualified support for Imbert.

[redacted] they would withdraw their support from Imbert once a new provisional government has been formed. Some of them, particularly General Wessin y Wessin, have previously been reported increasingly discontented with Imbert's rule.

It is possible that a showdown between Imbert and loyalist commanders may come prior to the establishment of a new government. The US embassy was informed yesterday [redacted] that two

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key loyalist generals had privately given assurances that they will refuse to obey if Imbert orders them to deport Balaguer.

Balaguer seems determined to defy Imbert's attempt to limit his stay in the Dominican Republic to only a few days. The 72 hours originally given Balaguer to visit his gravely ill mother was later apparently extended to the end of the week, but no further. Balaguer has been telling newsmen, however, that he has no reason or desire to leave the country and, in fact, has important family reasons for wanting to remain. He told reporters yesterday that the only way to get rid of him would be to arrest him, imprison him, or deport him. Balaguer obviously is relying on the strong personal support which he retains among leading Dominican military officers as well as among the public at large.

Meanwhile, Imbert is under increasing fire from people who consider him responsible for the recently discovered atrocities apparently committed by loyalist police units. The announcement yesterday that one of the victims had been a prominent woman officer of Bosch's Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) and another a well-known PRD radio announcer is likely to arouse further antagonism against the government.

There are no reports of additional disturbances in the interior during the past 24 hours, though tension evidently continues at a number of points in the interior.

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